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"justification by faith" in the form in which it has been held by modern Protestants. Ullman's memoir embraces all that is known of the good monk, with a critical analysis of his writings; and this renders the present edition of "The Imitation" preferable to any other. Of the work itself it is superfluous to speak. On the table, in the closet of every Christian, if there are but two books, this should be the second.

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15. — *Western Africa: its History, Condition, and Prospects.* By REV. J. LEIGHTON WILSON, eighteen Years a Missionary in Africa, and now one of the Secretaries of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions. With numerous Engravings. New York: Harper and Brothers. 1856. 12mo. pp. 527.

THIS book is another of the very numerous contributions made by the missionary enterprise to the world's science and knowledge. It leaves nothing to be desired as regards the topography, history, social state, and capabilities of the vast region which it covers. It is hopeful in its view of what Christian philanthropy may do for Africa. It seems to us one of the most strongly marked books of the year. It has no attractiveness of style; but it possesses the merit of painstaking accuracy, and is a precious memorial of the author's skill and energy as an explorer, no less than of his zeal and heroism as a captain in the "sacramental host."

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16. — *The Recent Progress of Astronomy; especially in the United States.* By ELIAS LOOMIS, LL. D., Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy in the University of the City of New York. Third Edition, mostly rewritten and much enlarged. New York: Harper and Brothers. 1856. 12mo. pp. 396.

It would require a full-length article to say what we should wish to say concerning this treatise. With improved instruments and rapidly multiplied observatories, the last twenty years, without essentially modifying previous theories, have greatly enriched the domain of descriptive astronomy, and accumulated ample materials for larger generalizations. Professor Loomis's work comprises not only the discoveries of these latter years, but descriptions (with plates) of improved instruments and new observatories. The author, though for the most part he confines himself to narrative and description, enters occasionally upon the discussion of questions still open; as, for instance, with reference to the asteroids, which, he maintains by an elaborate and cumulative argument, are not fragments of a larger planet. It is gratifying to find how